



# WOODWORKS GAZETTE

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## The School at Annapolis Woodworks



### From The Bench

The most commonly asked questions I receive usually involve finishes. What type of finish to use? How do I mix it and apply it? These questions aren't easy to answer because there are so many different species of woods, applications and types of finishes. Over the years finishes evolved from oil finishes of the 1700's, to shellac in the 1800's and lacquers and urethanes in the last century. I could go on for days, so we will keep this short and profile shellac in this month's edition. Shellac is an all-natural product that originates from Thailand, derived from the secretions of the lac bug. The little lac bug makes cocoons on a particular tree and natives collect the cocoon-filled twigs for processing. They scrape and grind the lac and soak it in water. A ghasandar jumps into the jar and stomps the lac as one would with grapes while making wine! This breaks open the lac seeds and releases the dye and bug guts. The ground lac is rinsed and spread out to dry. This seedlac can be further processed by cooking, bleaching, precipitation and vacuum drying. Zinssers makes a Bulls Eye Shellac product that is ready-to-use. Consumers can also buy shellac flakes in many different colors, but this must be cut with alcohol. Some manufacturers sell the flakes alongside denatured alcohol. For those who would like to be a little more 'GREEN', you can buy the flakes and mix it with cheap vodka, unless you want your hall table be an 'ABSOLUT-ly' great piece. Interesting tidbit: candy manufacturers use shellac as a foodsafe candy coating...melts in your mouth, not in your hands!

### Current Project Update

One of my woodturning students from Maryland Hall inquired about how to build this unusual stool. I took his sketch and improved upon it. By redesigning the joints to utilize dovetails, I was able to create a glue-less and fastener-less piece that is thoroughly modern and sure to last a lifetime.



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*We hope to keep the art of working with wood from being lost, while staying near family. Since shop classes are dying out in the public schools, we have built an extensive woodworking shop for the purpose of building furniture and teaching woodworking and woodturning classes to both children and adults. We strive to give back to the community as much as we've received from fellow woodworkers.*

## Class Recap - Basic Woodturning 4/13

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- April 5-6: Carving Class in Warrenton, VA
- April 10: Pen Turning Class 6:30p–9:30p
- April 13: Basic Woodturning Class 8:30a–5:30p
- April 26: Routers 101 8:30a–5:00p

On Saturday April 13 we had several ladies to the shop for the Basic Woodturning class. Over the course of the day, the students made bowls from a locally harvested apple tree. The shop had a wonderful aroma and water droplets were flying everywhere.



Kristin Dunkerton, Elsa Lankford and Troy Beall


## Turning Weekend with Bob Rosand Sept 27 & 28



Bob's wood turning instruction centers around projects. He is known throughout the wood turning community for his small projects, items that can be made in a relatively short period of time and also sold successfully at local crafts fairs. Some of the items you can expect to make are: Christmas tree ornaments, lidded boxes, ring holders, oil lamps. Basic instruction includes tool selection and sharpening. You can expect to make a small round skew as well as a bent angle tool and receive instruction in its use. All day classes start at 8:30 and run until 5:00pm, with a half hour lunch break at noon. Tuition for the weekend is \$270, with a 50% deposit to reserve your space. Don't delay, space is limited!

## In the News

Most children are ingrained with the words 'Don't Touch, You'll Break It'. My father was no exception...I was chastised numerous times for getting into things in his workshop. Well, I finally have the opportunity to touch something with a **challenge** to break it! Delta Machinery is producing a new mini-lathe, hopefully available in the next 8 months. I've been chosen to beta-test one of their demonstration models for their research & development team. I'm turning at least 8 additional hours per week as I run it through its paces. The only downside is that I'm not allowed to take it apart!



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*“Don't  
Touch it,  
You'll  
Break It!”*

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## Buy/Sell/Trade

Leigh Dovetail Jig (DR24) Brand New, still in box with assorted bits/bushings. Call Robert 410-353-9418  
Used Bandsaw (Meat saw...can be converted to a great wood saw) \$600. Call Skip 410-827-9425  
Several Used Professional Grade Items for sale including: Mortiser \$700, Radial Arm Saw \$1400, Table Saw \$1200, Band Saw \$1500. Contact Syl.Schieber@watsonwyatt.com  
Router Table, made by Magna Industrial Tool Co. \$100 Call Troy at 301-261-4484.  
Looking to Buy/Sell/Trade? Email troy@annapoliswoodworks.com and list your ad for free!

## Course Schedule 2008

### APRIL

Pen Turning \$75 April 10 6:30p–9:30p

Basic Woodturning \$135 April 13 8:30a–5:00p

Routers 101 \$120 April 26 8:30a–5:00p

### MAY

Steambending \$80 May 8 6:30p–9:30p

Shaker Nightstand \$600+materials May 12-16 8:30a–5:00p

Intermediate Woodturning\* \$135 May 31 8:30a–5:00p

### JUNE

Sharpening \$70 June 5 6:30p–9:30p

Classic Shell Carving \$150 June 15 8:30a–5:00p

Shaker Rocker \$750 June 26-29 8:30a–5:00p

### JULY

Pen Turning \$75 July 10 6:30p–9:30p

Basic Woodturning \$135 July 19 8:30a–5:00p

Hand Plane Clinic \$750 July 21-25 8:30a–5:00p

### AUGUST

Hollow Form Turning\* \$135 August 9 8:30a–5:30p

Bandsaws 101 \$120 August 23 8:30a–5:00p

Intermediate Woodturning\* \$135 August 30 8:30a–5:00p

### SEPTEMBER

Sharpening \$70 September 4 6:30p–9:30p

Cabriole Leg w/Ball & Claw \$250 September 13-14 15 8:30a–5:00p

Square Bowl Turning\* \$130 September 21 8:30a–5:00p

Turning Weekend w/Bob Rosand \$270 September 27-28 8:30a–5:00p

### OCTOBER

Shaker Stool \$250 October 4-5 8:30a–5:00p

Basic Woodturning \$135 October 18 8:30a–5:00p

Blanket Chest \$500+materials October 21-24 8:30a–5:00p

### NOVEMBER

Spindle Turning \$500 November 6-9 8:30–5:00 p

Comb Back Windsor Chair \$800 November 10-14 8:30a–5:00p

Intermediate Woodturning\* \$135 November 22 8:30a–5:00p

### DECEMBER

Sharpening \$70 December 4 6:30p–9:30p

Pie Crust Tray \$260 December 6-7 8:30a–5:00p

Bookcase \$650 + materials December 8-12 8:30a–5:00p

Turned Christmas Ornaments \$130 December 14 8:30a–5:00p

Turned Christmas Ornaments \$130 December 20 8:30a–5:00p